MAR 0 1 2006 WITTED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/650,338

Confirmation No. 6839

**Applicant** 

Y. HIRAKAWA et al

Filed

August 27, 2003

Title

STORAGE SYSTEM

TC/AU

2164

Examiner

S.R. Pannala

Docket No. :

H-5027

Customer No.:

24956

Commissioner for Patents Mail Stop AF P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## <u>AMENDMENT</u>

Sir:

In response to the Office Action (Final Rejection) of December 29, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and appropriate fee accompany this response.

Remarks / Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.